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National Distributor: MERIDIAN DISTRIBUTING CO., INC.
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America's newest mode of transportation gives nudists greater accessibility to isolated areas!

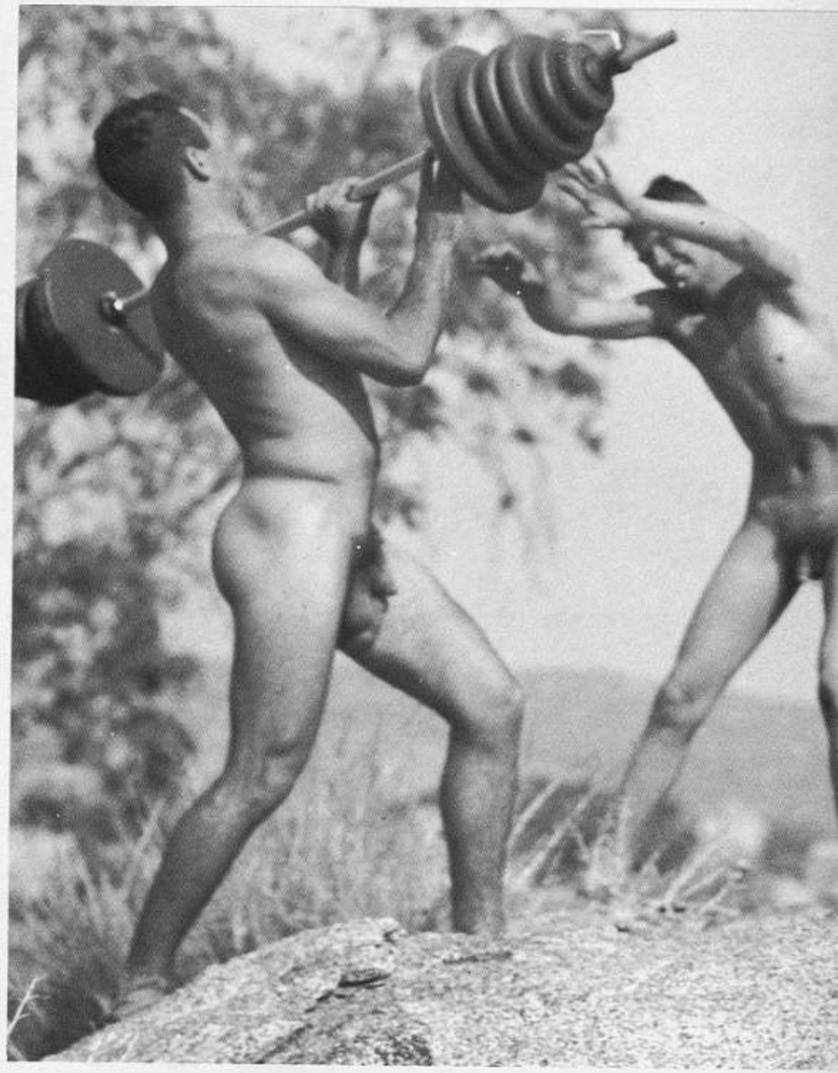
DUNE BUGGIES:

Throughout the United States and especially in areas such as Southern California, men and women seeking freedom from a hum-drum life are forsaking streets and highways for sand dunes and other rough terrain.

Their mode of travel? The dune buggy, a whole new type of vehicle born out of Volkswagen parts, fiberglass or sheetmetal, and huge tires. The Volkswagen body is shorted by 14¼ inches to allow for greater ground clearance; the Volkswagen engine looks as if it were haphazardly slung on the rear of a hotrodded vehicle; the body is either covered with fiberglass that appears to be rising into air or sheetmetal that is riveted closely to the VW frame.

On either body style — the sheetmetal **Burro** or the fiberglass **Meyers Manx** — there is a roll bar in the event that the dune buggy overturns. Dune buggies — also called street roadsters, slalom racers, surfboard haulers, mountain explorers, or camp wagons — are further distinguished by extra-large tires on the front and back wheels.

Dune buggying is a new American interest that already has many followers, including nudists who find that the mobility of the machines grant them access to isolated areas where they can practice nudism. It is not unusual to

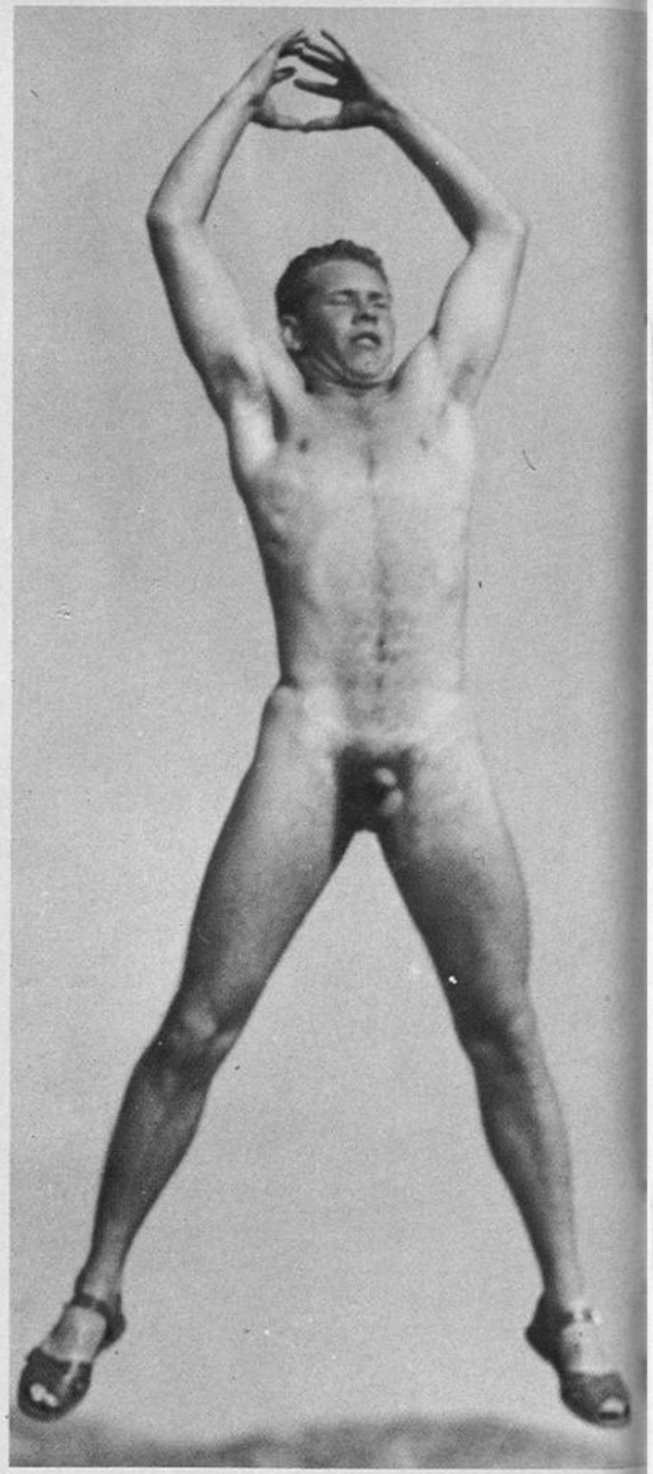


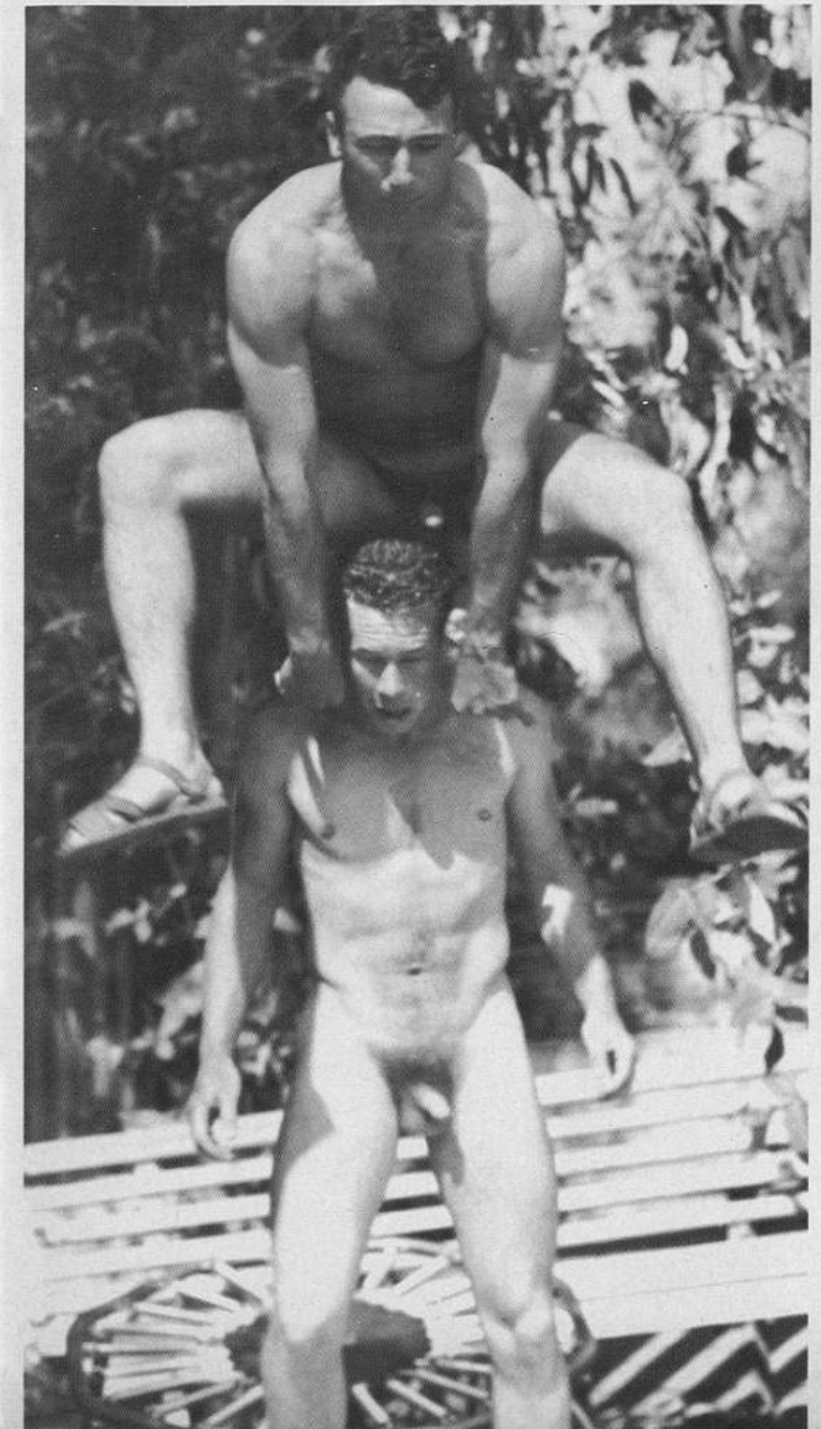
BOON TO NUDISM

see dozens of dune-buggy owners taking off one after another on long weekends for fast treks on sand dunes, on beaches, in mountain areas, up streams, and down hill and vale.

One popular dune-buggying area is Glamis, the center of a huge area of sand hills which has been termed "America's Sahara." The dry and powdery dunes are situated in the arid wastelands northwest of Yuma, Arizona, and extend 12 miles across and 35 miles in length.

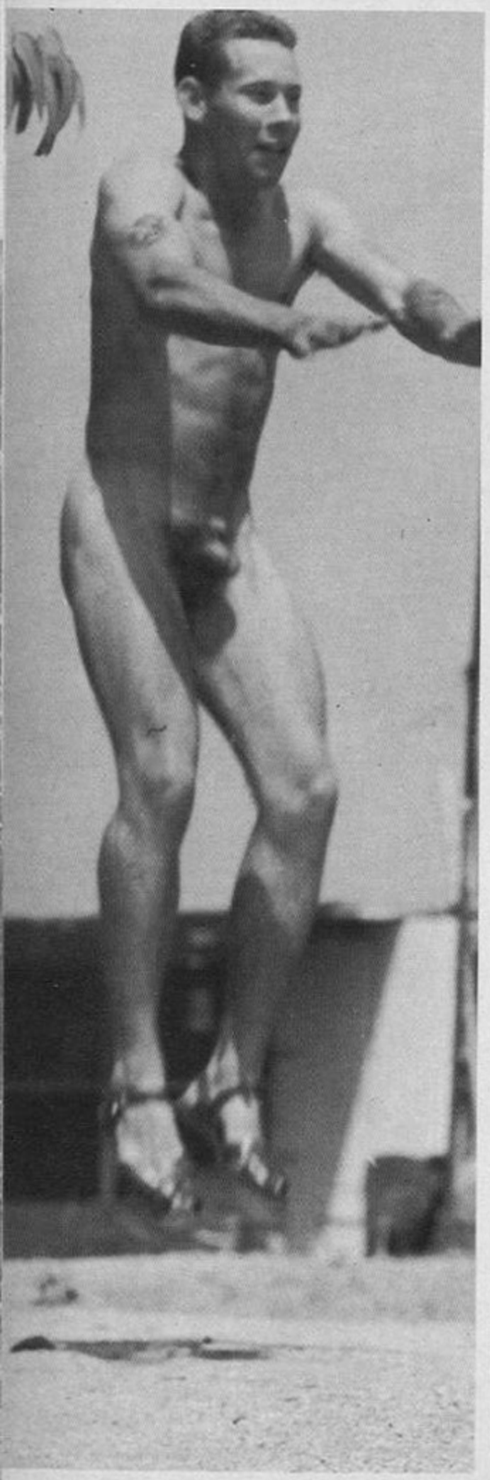
Glamis is the only oasis in this desert and becomes headquarters for desert duners even though the town consists primarily of a rickety store, railroad tracks, a few green areas and enough firm ground to park several acres of cars, trailers and campers.

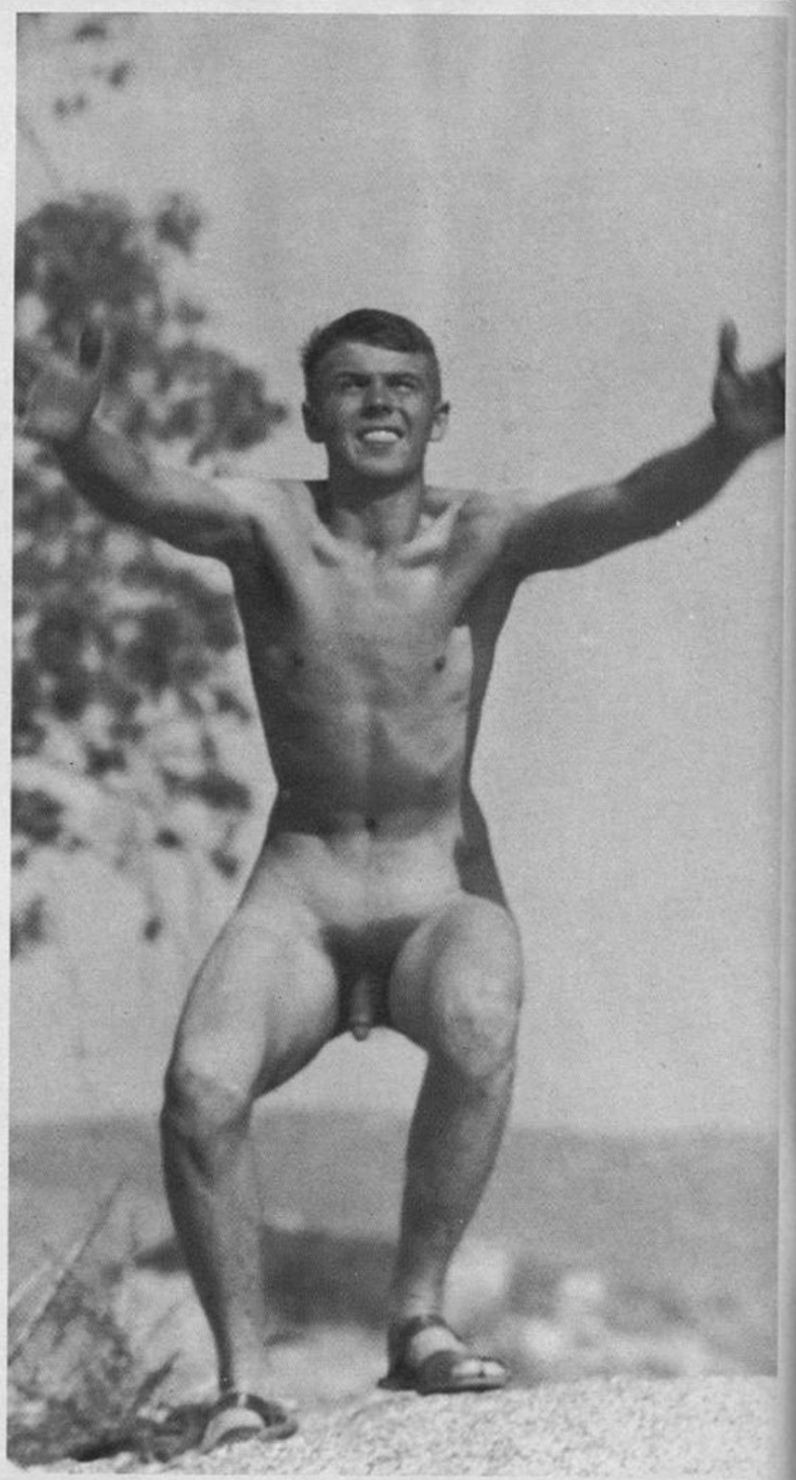


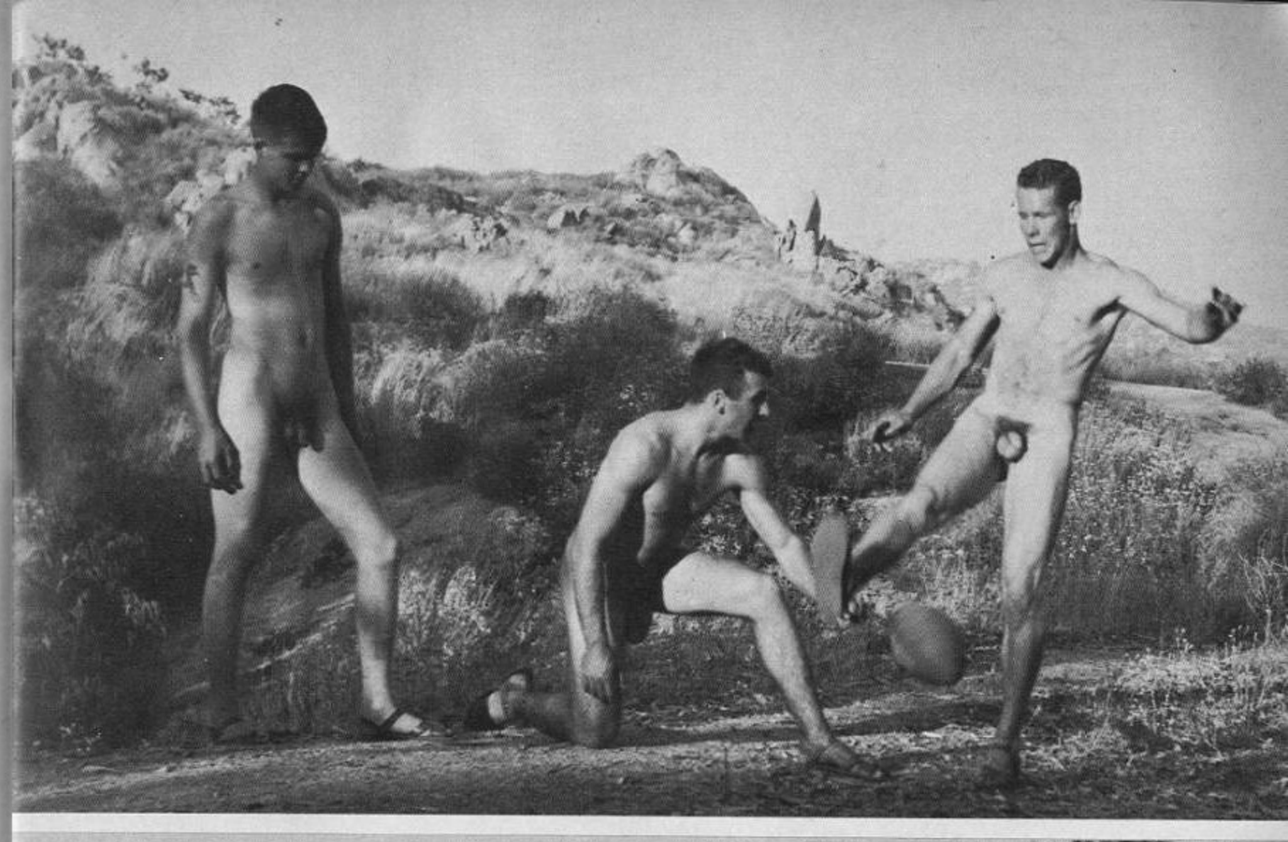


The nights in Glamis are clear and beckoning to night riders, who can hardly resist firing motors for a fast trek through sand wastes, guided only by the bright smooth spread of headlights before them. In the light of the full moon, there are fast races and full-bore follow-the-leader events.

During the day, there will be tests of hill climbing and drag racing, one buggy being pitted against the other. The buggy owners will take their agile machines over dunes which many times have spectacular







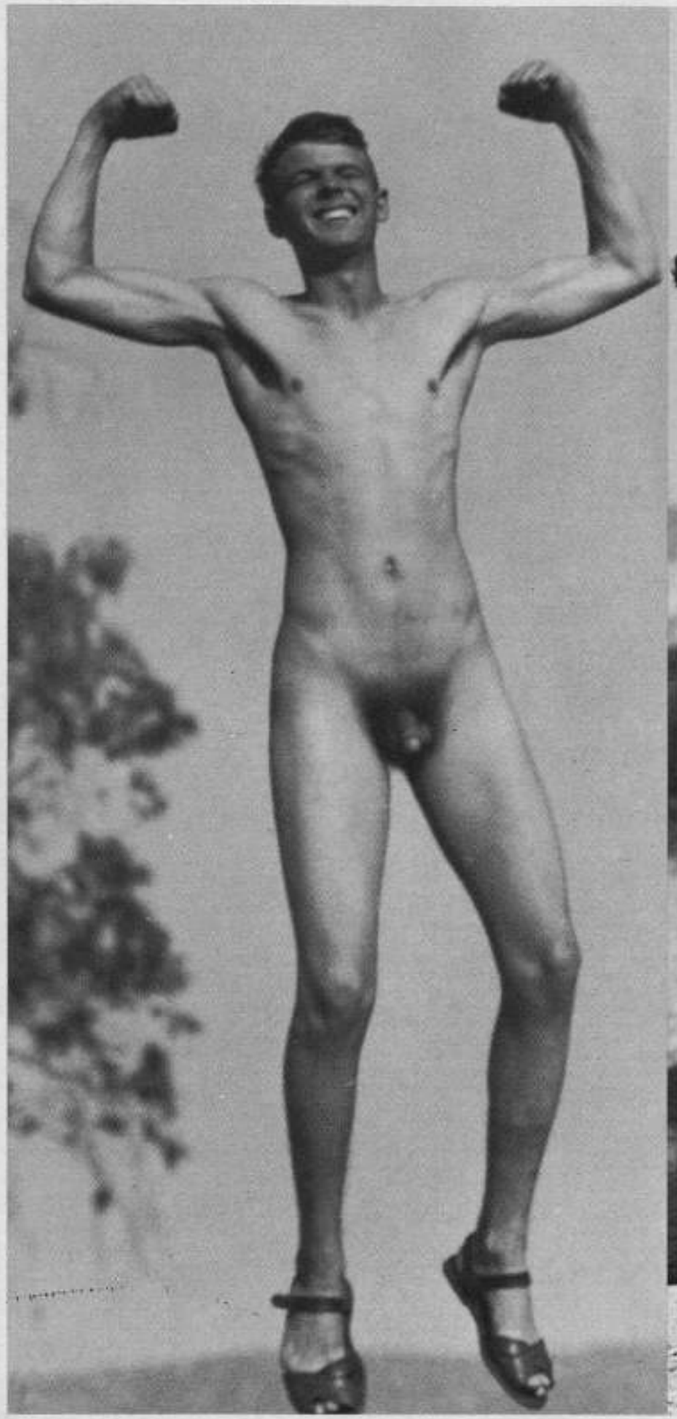
height and are too dangerous for any vehicle other than the reconditioned Volkswagen, with its air-cooled engine and great wheelbase clearance.

Later that night will be more dune buggying, with each vehicle marked by tiny light bulbs which whip back and forth atop the swaying flagpole to warn of any impending collision. During the daytime, the lights will be replaced by pennants.

At Glamis, too, one will sometimes see several dune buggies manned by nudists leaving the main crowd of buggy owners so they can

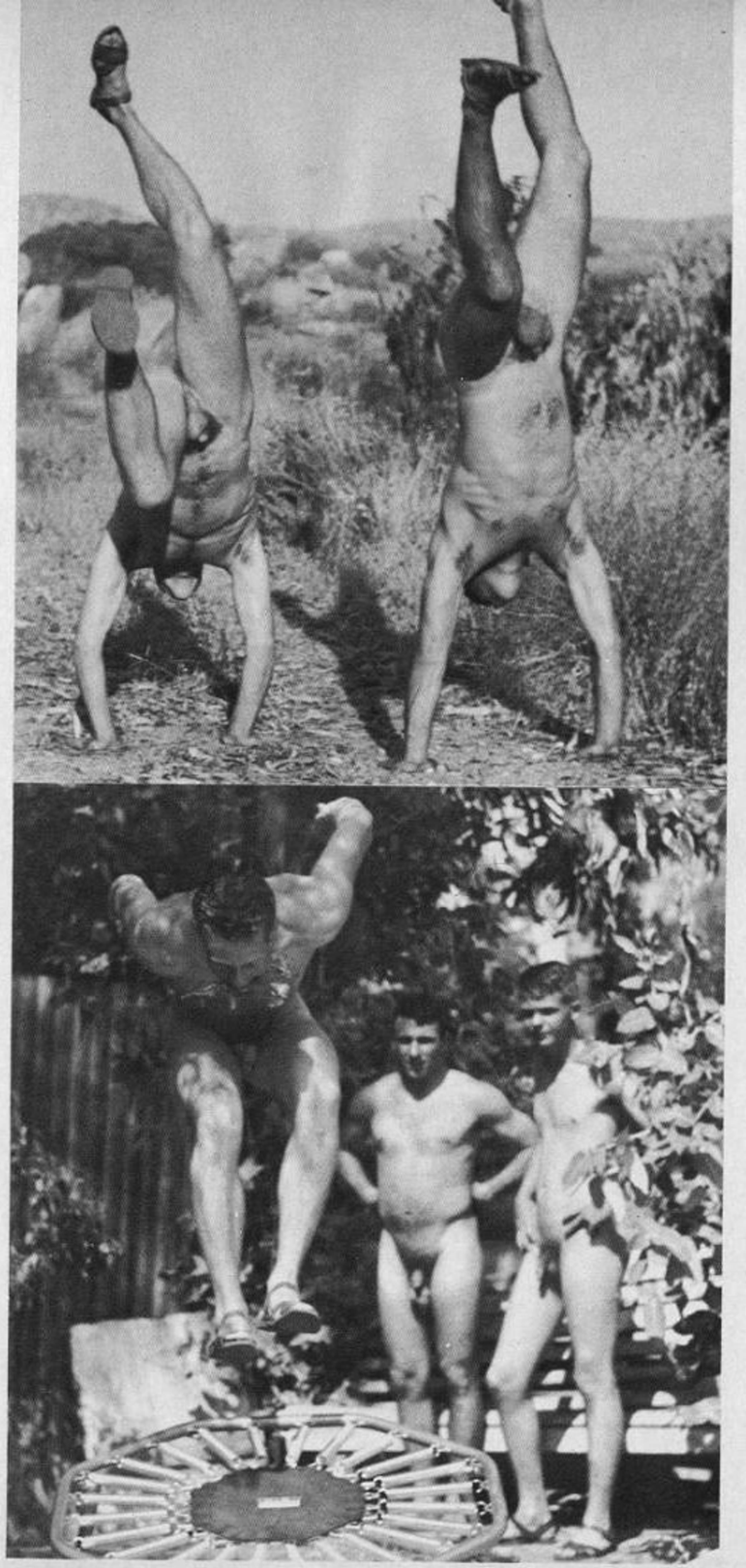
practice their nudist activities. Instead of spending their days racing one another, these nudists will instead race to a site where they can take off their clothes and enjoy the warmth of the hot sun on their totally bare bodies.

A second popular dune buggy area is Pismo Beach, California, which offers a mile-long strand of surf-lapped beach. The beach stretches between Point Arguelo and Point San Luis and is marked for buggying by four-foot stakes driven in the sand at regular intervals — a route selected to avoid dangerous dropoffs and to allow one to keep his distance from the sea.



It is along this route that dozens of dune racers roll easily, if bumpily, along the corrugated sand. Each rise they experience is different. Some are gently rounded and others dip off sharply. One Manx bogs down about half-way up a tall escarpment of sand, swings 180 degrees and swoops down, circling back at the base for a second, this time successful, try. Others who have made it up the escarpment hang their front wheels over the lip and then plunge downward to again race up the coast.

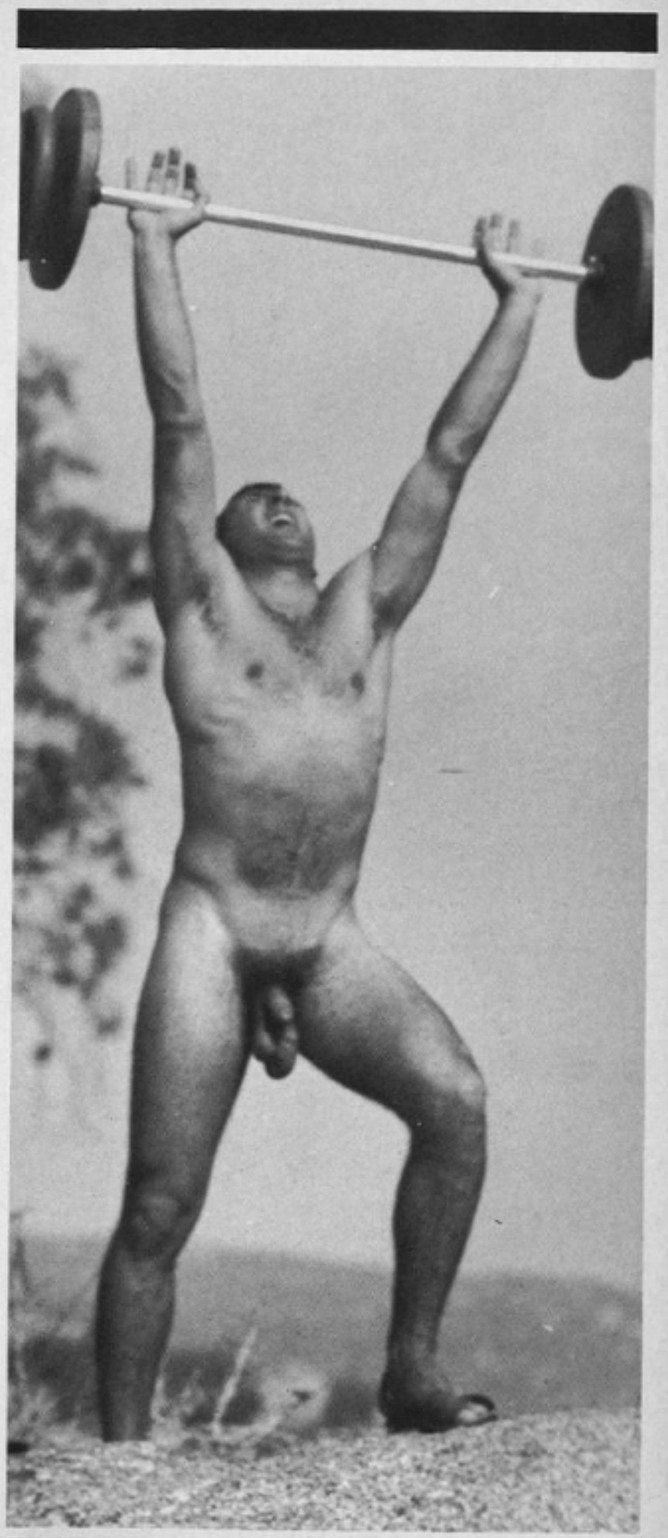
Wind and sand sting the faces of unshielded riders as they careen along sand ridges, down one deep bowl of sand and up another, in and out of brush, until they reach



their greatest trial of all — Devil's Slide.

The slide appears mammoth, as if it rose a full mile from the sea but it is actually only a few hundred feet high. Devil's Slide is a staggering rise of sand between rocky ridges. It has an angle of repose that varies from steep to impossible.

Yet the Manx's and the Burros take it on. The buggy riders pick their routes and take on the lower, very steep slope, and then reach a more gradual pitch. But one-third of the way up, there is a rapid swooping upward to an even more pitched slope for the final climb to the top. It is only after several attempts the riders make the summit. And then they can zig-zag their



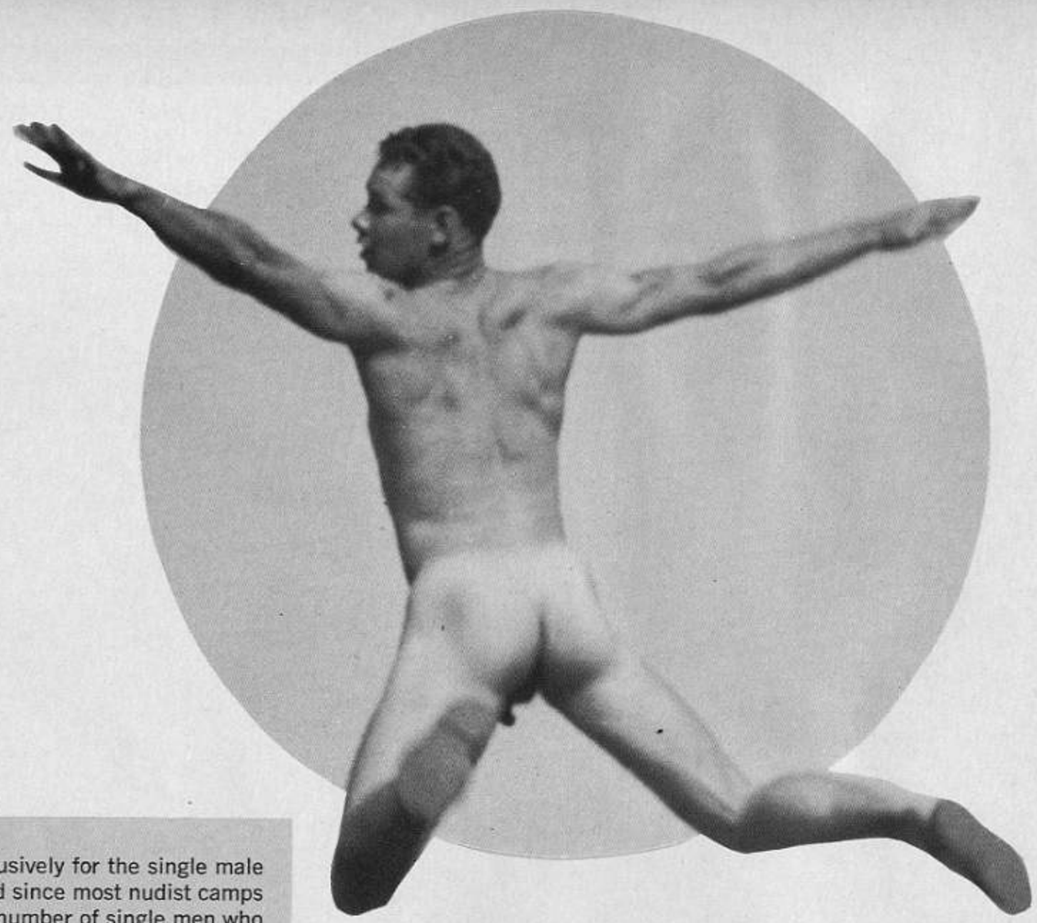
way downward over the steep terrain back to the beaches, savoring every skid down this huge sand mountain, which rises like a giant sand castle in the sky.

Then, as they continue on their ocean-marked path, they come to the blue lagoon which marks Oso Flaco Lake: a true oasis after such a long trip on sand.

There are many reasons for people to take up dune buggying. It is challenging, exhilarating, unwinding, sensual, and it requires both physical and mental exertion and coordination. These are reasons enough in themselves.

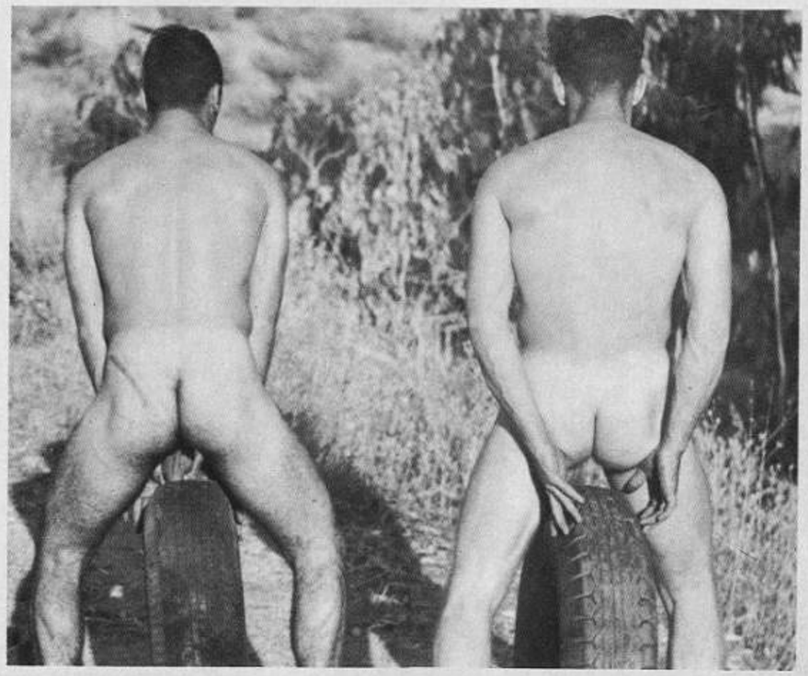
But the dune buggy offers much more. Because of its mobility, an investigator of aircraft accidents bought a buggy to more easily reach crash sites. The dune buggy is also an excellent mode of transportation for people who like to hunt for rocks or collect driftwood.

The dune buggy is especially suited to the single male nudist. Since there are no nudist camps

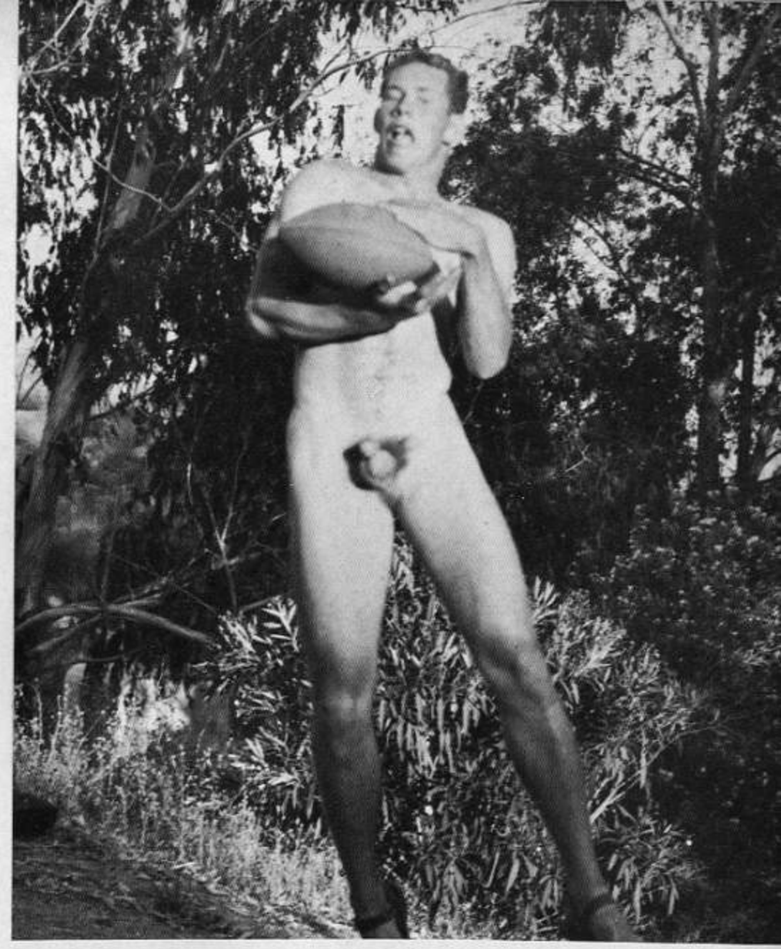


exclusively for the single male nudist and since most nudist camps limit the number of single men who can visit their camp, the single male nudist often has no acceptable area where he can practice nudism. With the dune buggy, he can travel to areas which will be totally private. He can visit desert, beach, and mountain areas which are inaccessible to most people and can thus be assured of his privacy. The dune buggy offers, besides room for a companion, storage space for food, clothing, and sleeping bags, and unbelievable mobility.

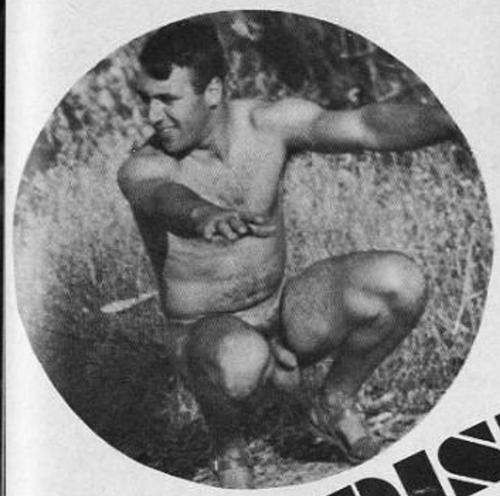
In many areas, dune-buggy clubs are forming and there is no reason why a single male nudist cannot gather around him a group of men who share his enthusiasm for nudism. Once he has found like-minded males, the advantages of owning a dune buggy will be apparent. There is no reason, in fact, why single males who enjoy nudism cannot form their own dune-buggy nudist club.



Such a club would be ideal for single males who wish to practice nudism. There are innumerable areas in each state which are difficult to get to with normal modes of transportation. If a wanderer or if a hiker happened onto the male nudist campsite, it would be the intruder who would be obligated to make apologies, not the male nudist. The single male nudist could enjoy his nudist activities thoroughly in an area of his own choosing. He and his friends could walk freely through forest paths, on secluded beaches, through desert sand dunes. And when they feel like it they can race their dune-buggies and test the mettle of their machines!

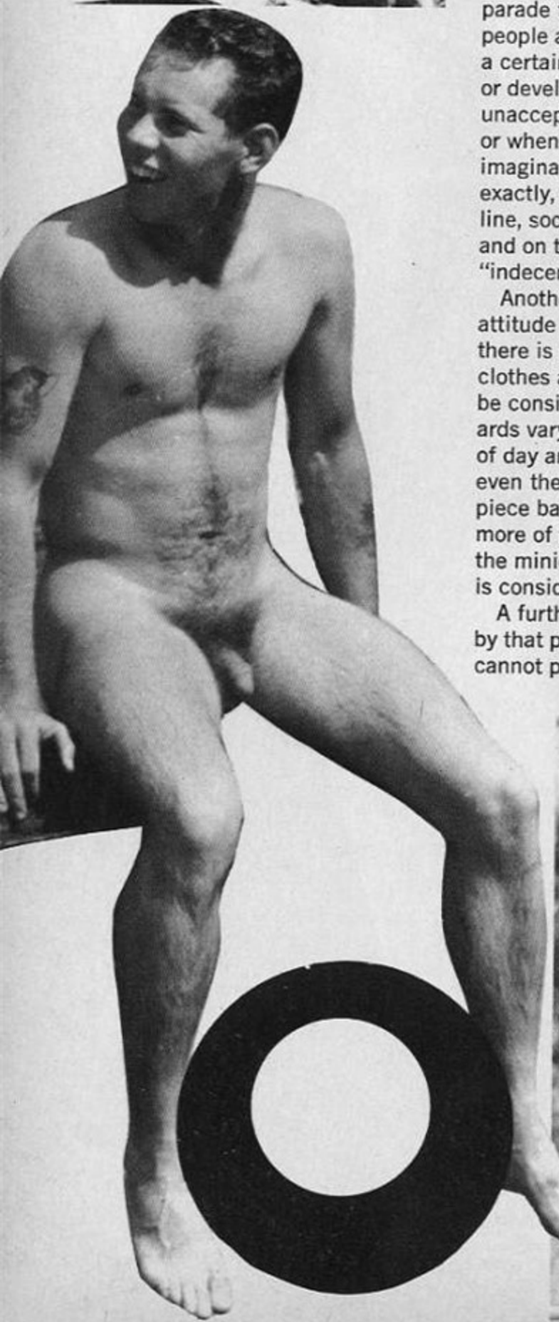


Standards of morality have varied through the ages and curiously enough, in most instances, nudity has not been taboo!



NUDISM THROUGH THE AGES

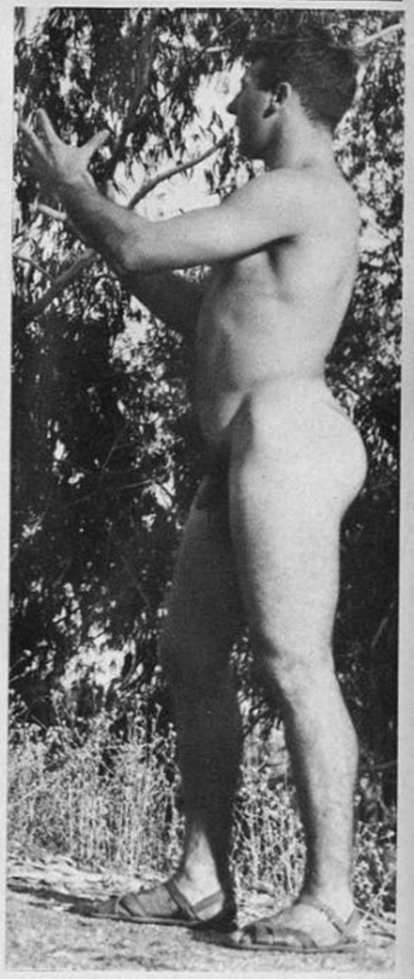
by Abe Richards

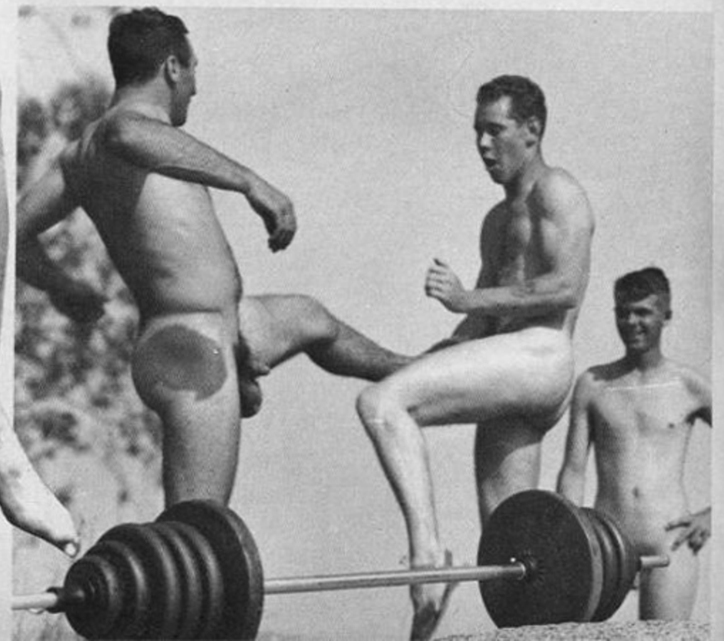


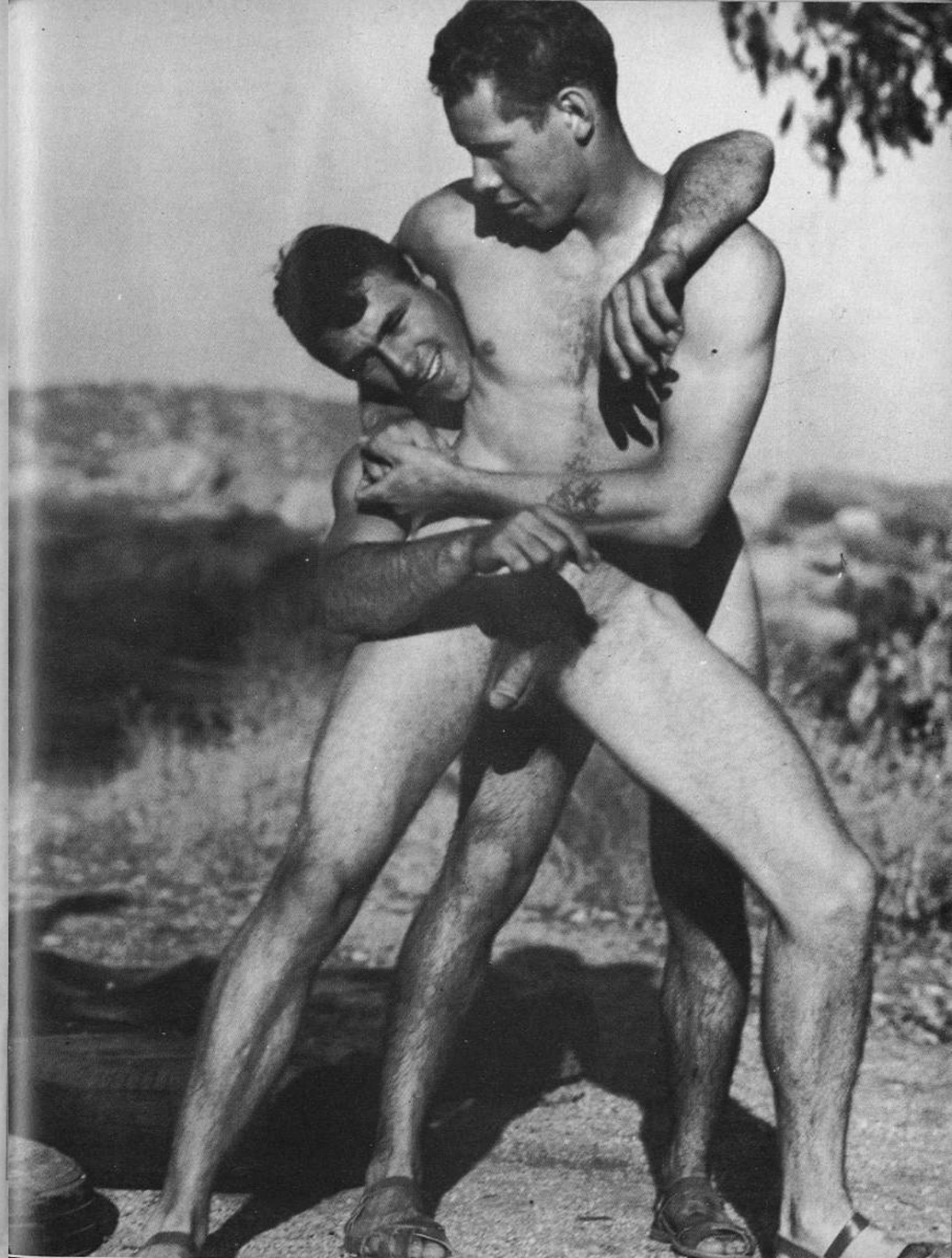
American attitude towards nudity is surely a puzzling thing. We are taught from childhood that the naked human body is something to be ashamed of, and we go to great and inconvenient lengths to cover it up. We even impose this modesty on our animal pets, dressing them up in pants and sweaters. It's all right to bring small children to the beach and parade them naked (although some people are still offended), but at a certain point in the child's age or development, this act becomes unacceptable to society. Where or when is this magic point, this imaginary line? No one knows exactly, yet on one side of the line, society turns its moral head, and on the other side it screams "indecent exposure."

Another paradox in the American attitude towards nudity is that there is no absolute amount of clothes a person must wear to be considered decent. Our standards vary greatly with the time of day and place. For example, even the most conservative, one-piece bathing suit reveals much more of the female form than does the miniest mini-skirt, yet the latter is considered "immoral" by many.

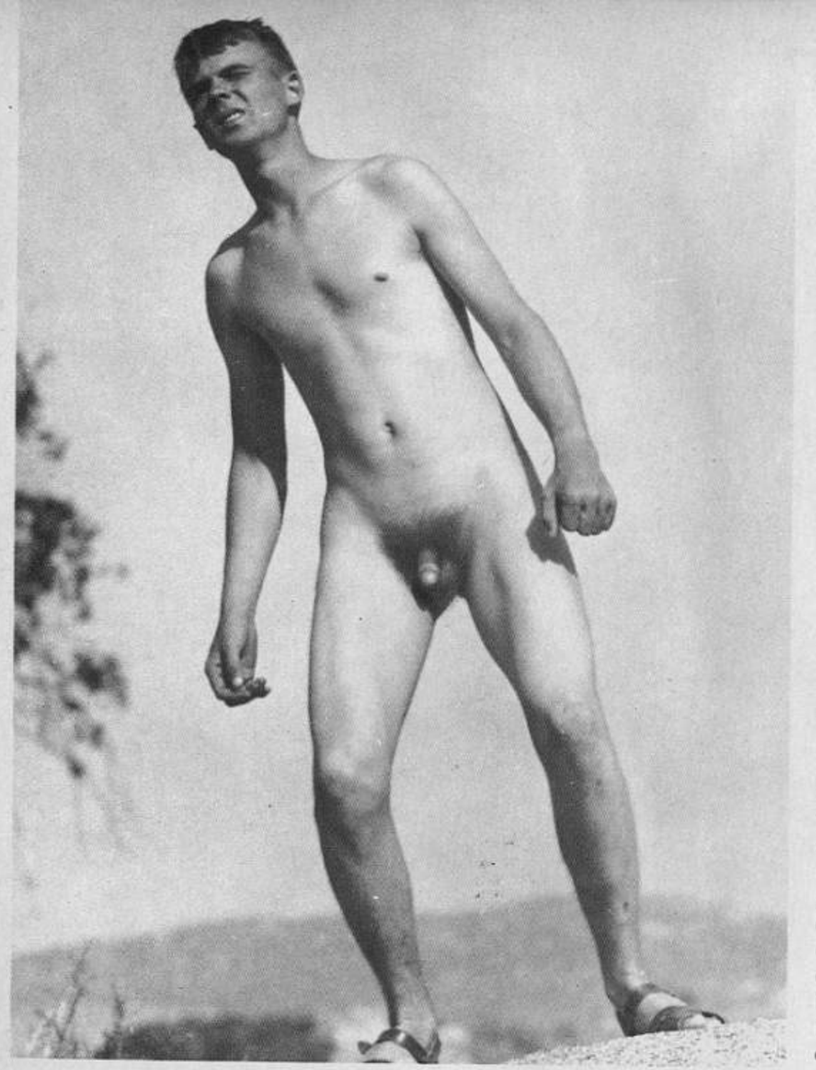
A further perversion is evidenced by that portion of our society that cannot put up with nudity in







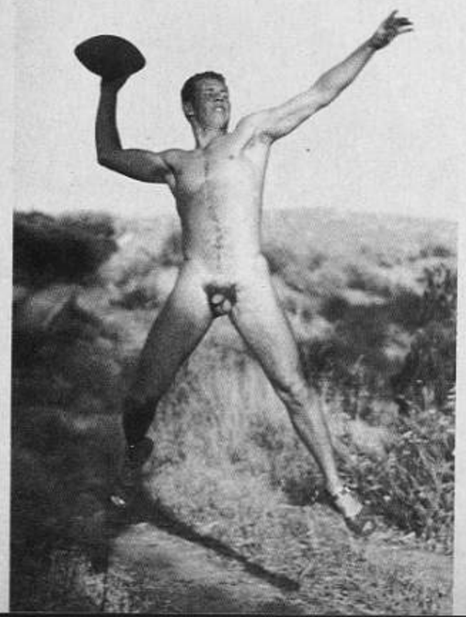
any form — even in art. Forest Lawn Cemetery achieved dubious immortality by draping a reproduction of Michelangelo's **David** with a fig leaf, thereby protecting the innocence of its visitors. The number of awkwardly placed loincloths in paintings through the centuries shows that this tendency is not a new one. Fortunately, the majority can view artistic representations of the nude body dispassionately, or few of the great masterpieces would have survived.

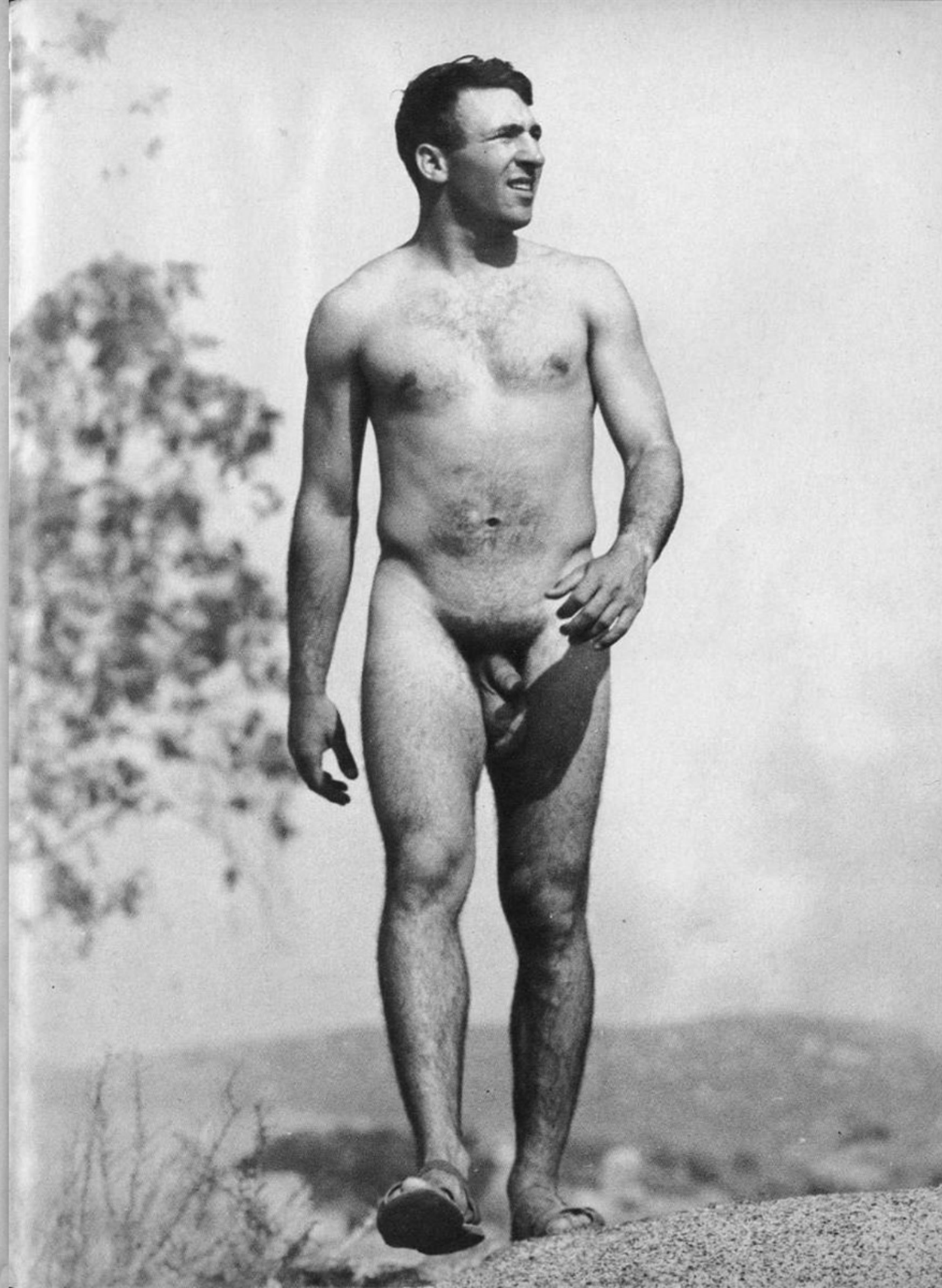


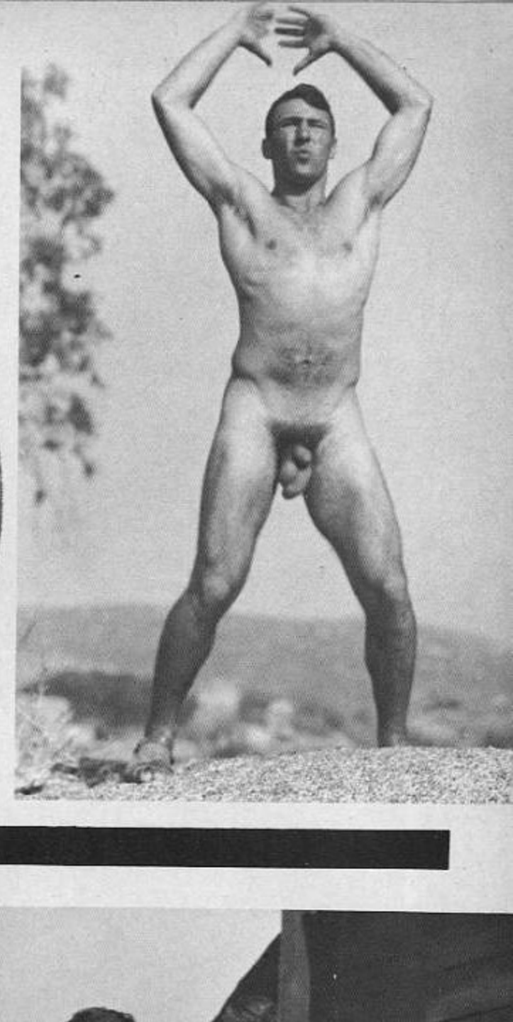
Standards of morality have varied through the ages and curiously enough, in most instances, nudity has not been taboo. One of the best examples is the society of the ancient Greeks, the highest civilization of the time. Nakedness was not restricted to athletic events, but was frequent in religious rites and everyday life. The Greeks' costumes were loose fitting and of a light material, concealing most of the sex characteristics that our modern clothing tries so painfully to emphasize. Both men and women wore almost identical outfits: long, flowing robes and sandals.

Although chastity ranked low on the Greek scale of virtues, it is inaccurate to equate their nakedness with impurity. The Spartan girl ran naked in the stadium but she would kill herself if a man touched her. Similarly, Grecian men participated in nude gymnastics but their interests in each other were strictly platonic.

The Greeks, of course, were pagans — they worshipped hundreds of gods, including the gods of the sun, earth, war, and so on— even though we remember them in terms of their democratic ideals. It is much more surprising to discover examples of acceptable

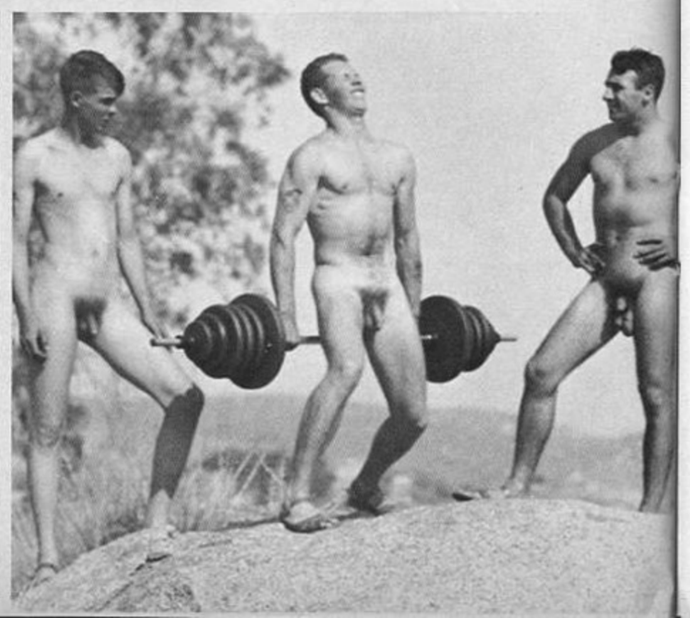




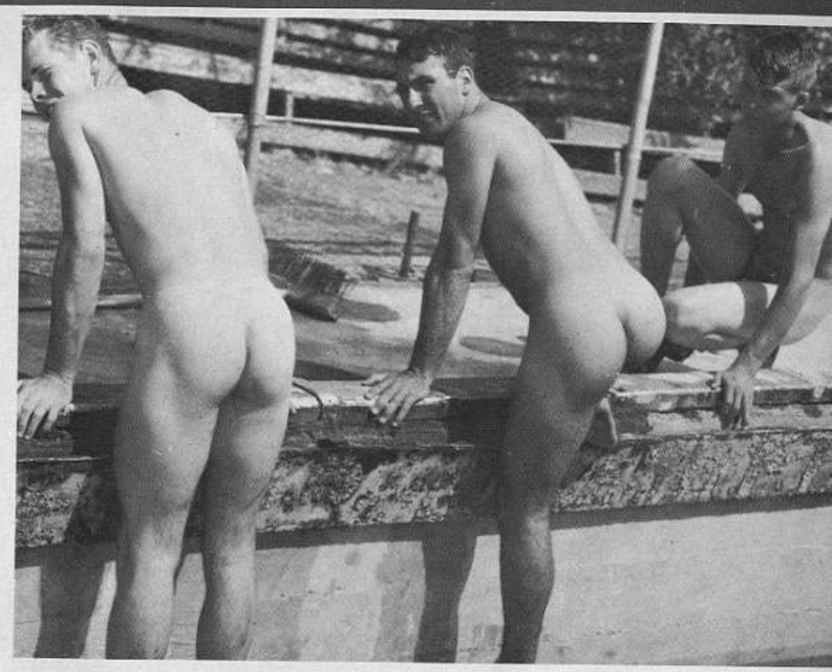


nudity among Christians. The early Church did not stress the shame of the naked human body or the natural evil in man for the first two or three centuries of its existence. In fact, it is recorded that in the passion plays Christ was often represented "naked as an earthworm."

During the Middle Ages it was quite common practice for the maiden of a castle to care for a visiting knight by giving him a bath and massaging him with her own hands. Yet this fact does not detract from our understanding that the Middle Ages was a devoutly Christian era. All through this period and up until the time of the Protestant Reformation, men and women bathed together at the public baths in Germany, and the same practice continues today in Japan.



Among Christian sects the Quakers rank near the highest for their moral and ethical standards. Early Quaker attitude towards nudity, however, provides an unexpected surprise. In Cromwell's England, around 1650, historians reported that two young Quaker girls "ran naked through the streets of Oxford, denouncing the hypocrisy of the people and calling upon them to abandon their sins." It was added that these girls were extremely virtuous and modest. The same sort of conduct was not restricted to England but was also found in Colonial America, and involved nude incidents with both men and women. And this from a



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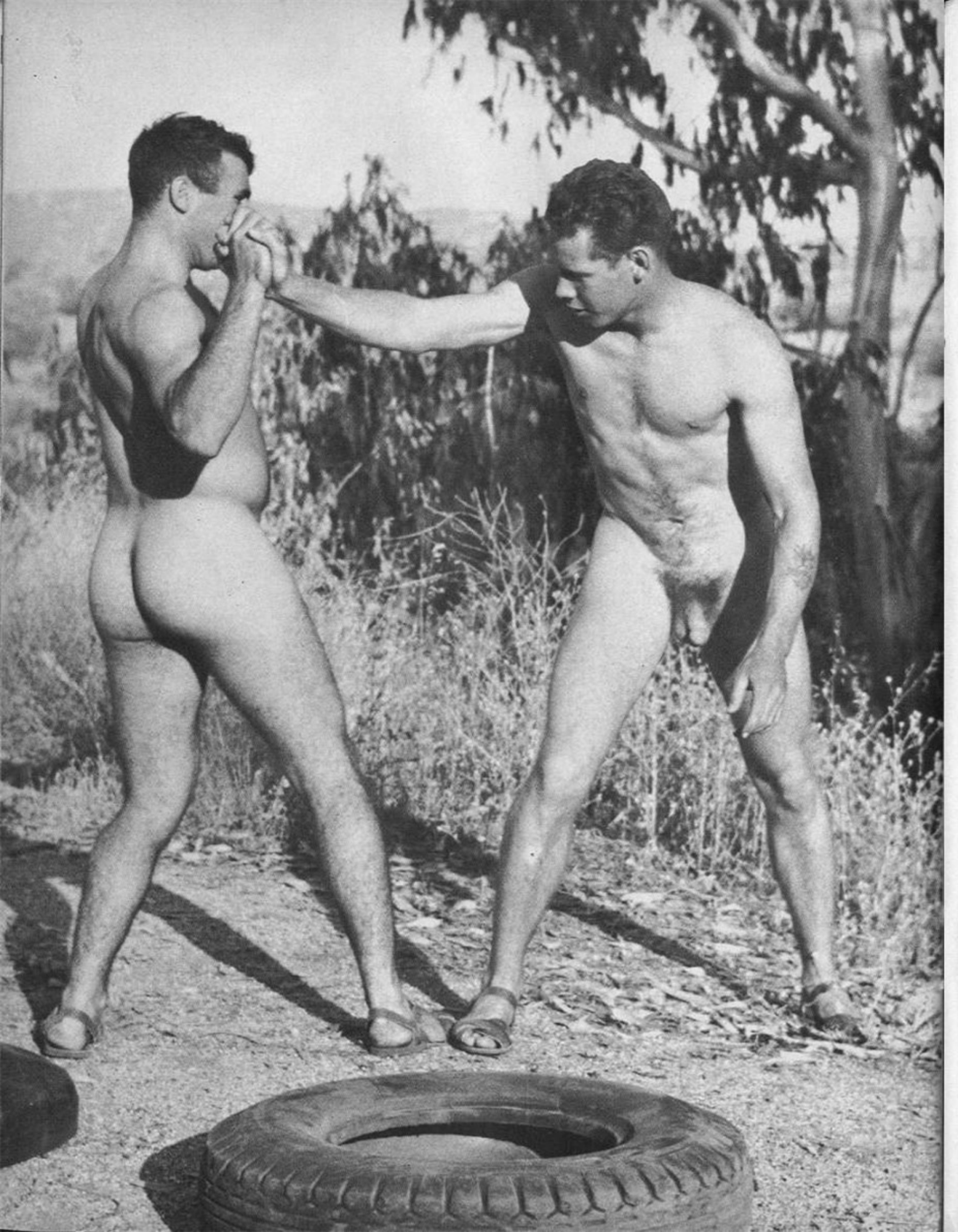
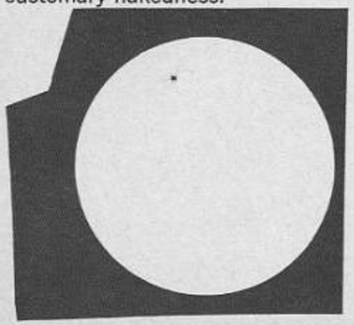


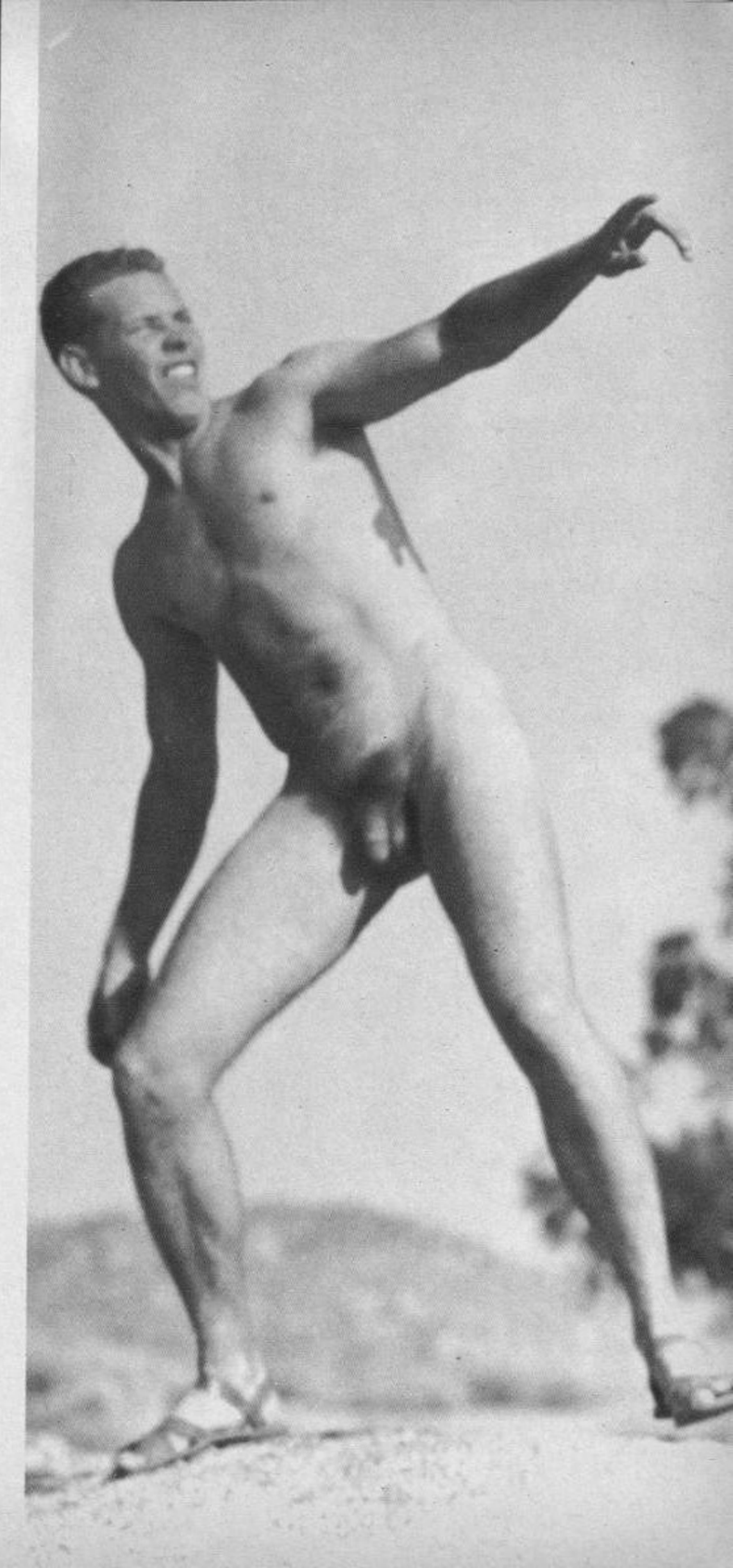
group which had forbidden dancing and music as instruments of the Devil!

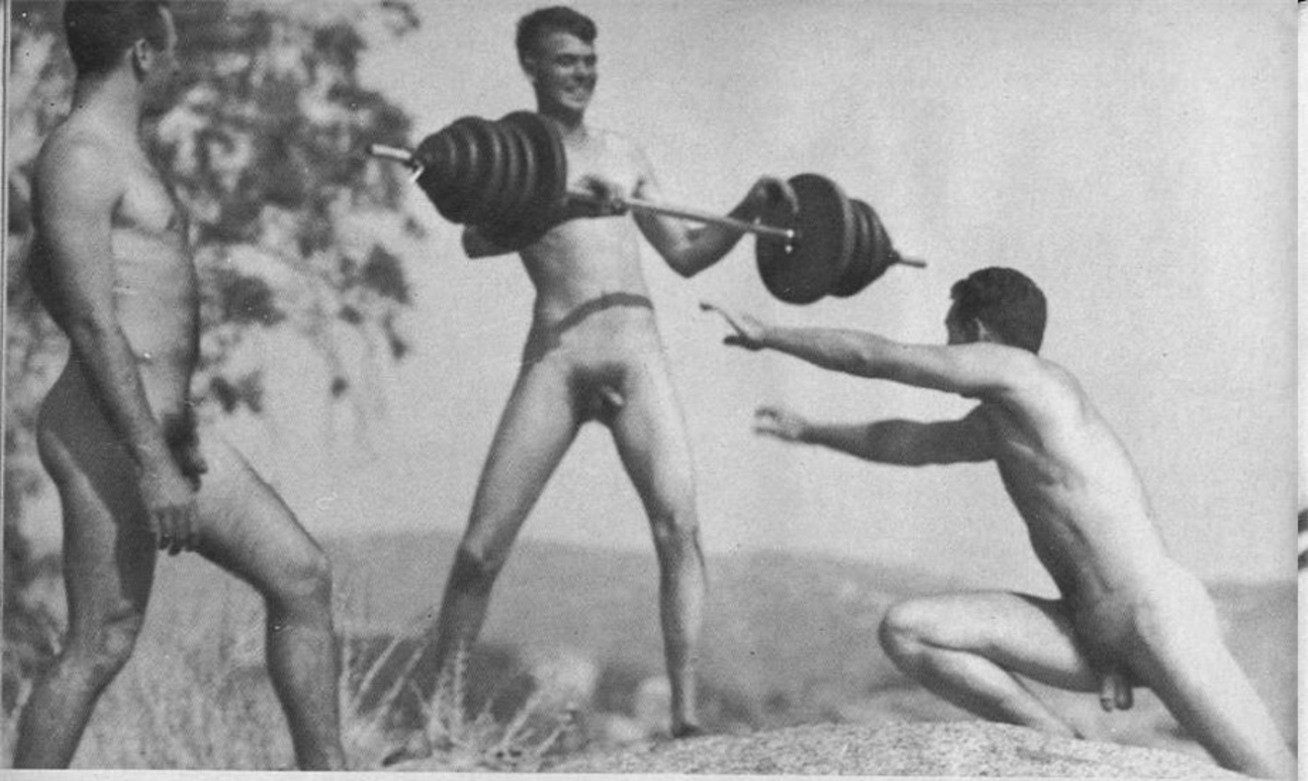
Endorsements for the purity of nakedness have even come from contemporary Christian clergymen. Father Sertillanges, Professor in the Catholic Institute in Paris, writes in his **L'Art et la Morale,** "Nudity in itself is chaste as nature; it is holy, being from God, and it does not need to conceal its existence."

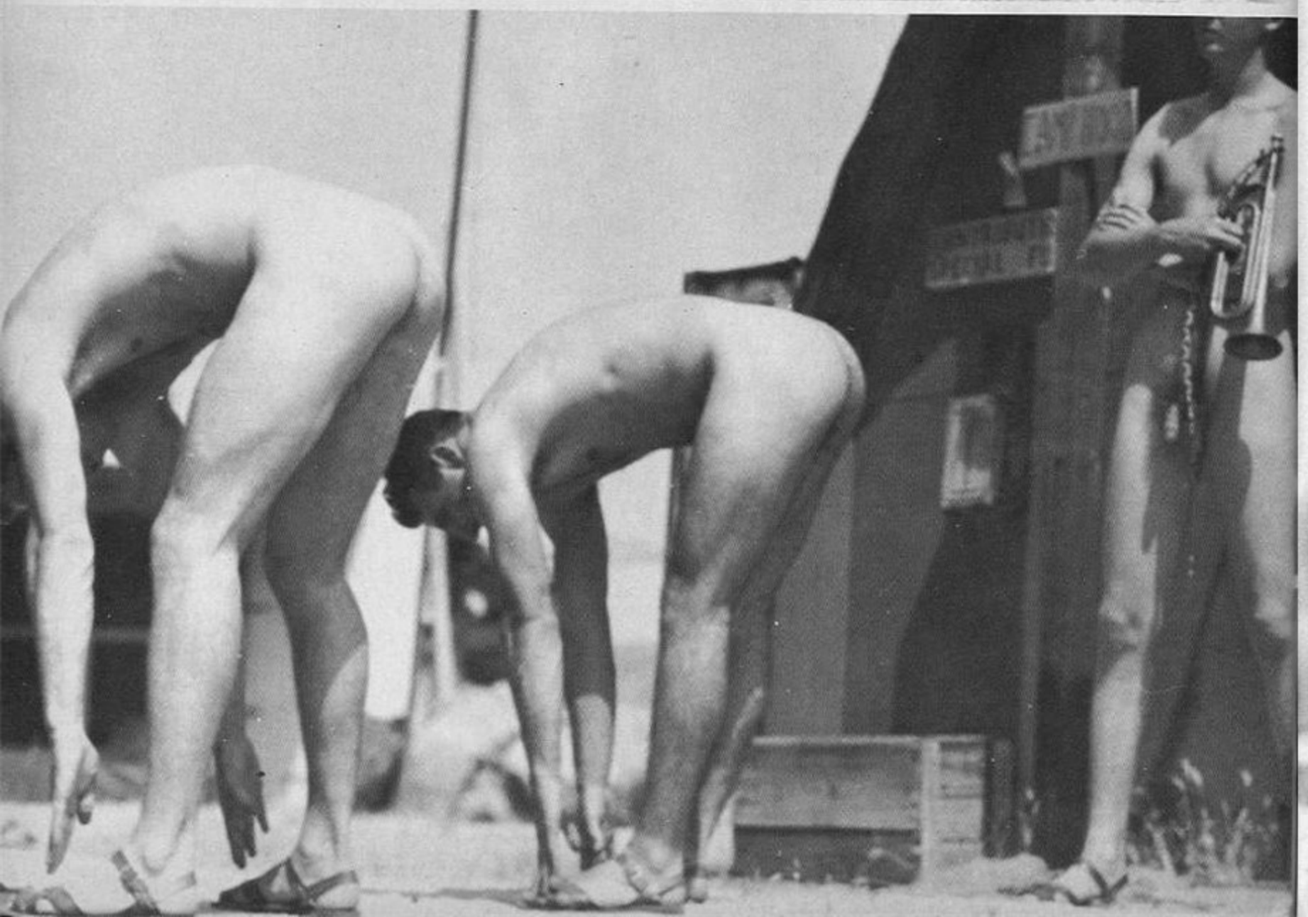
Western civilization has always had a greater concern than the rest of the world for the naked body. In Africa, nudity was an accepted way of life for thousands of years until White missionaries taught the natives the shamefulness of their bodies. In the Yap Islands, near Formosa, intercourse between married couples is part of the public religious ceremony. Mothers think nothing of fondling their young son's genitals or putting them into their mouths. And yet, in this same culture, sneezing, belching, and even eating certain foods in public is considered obscene.

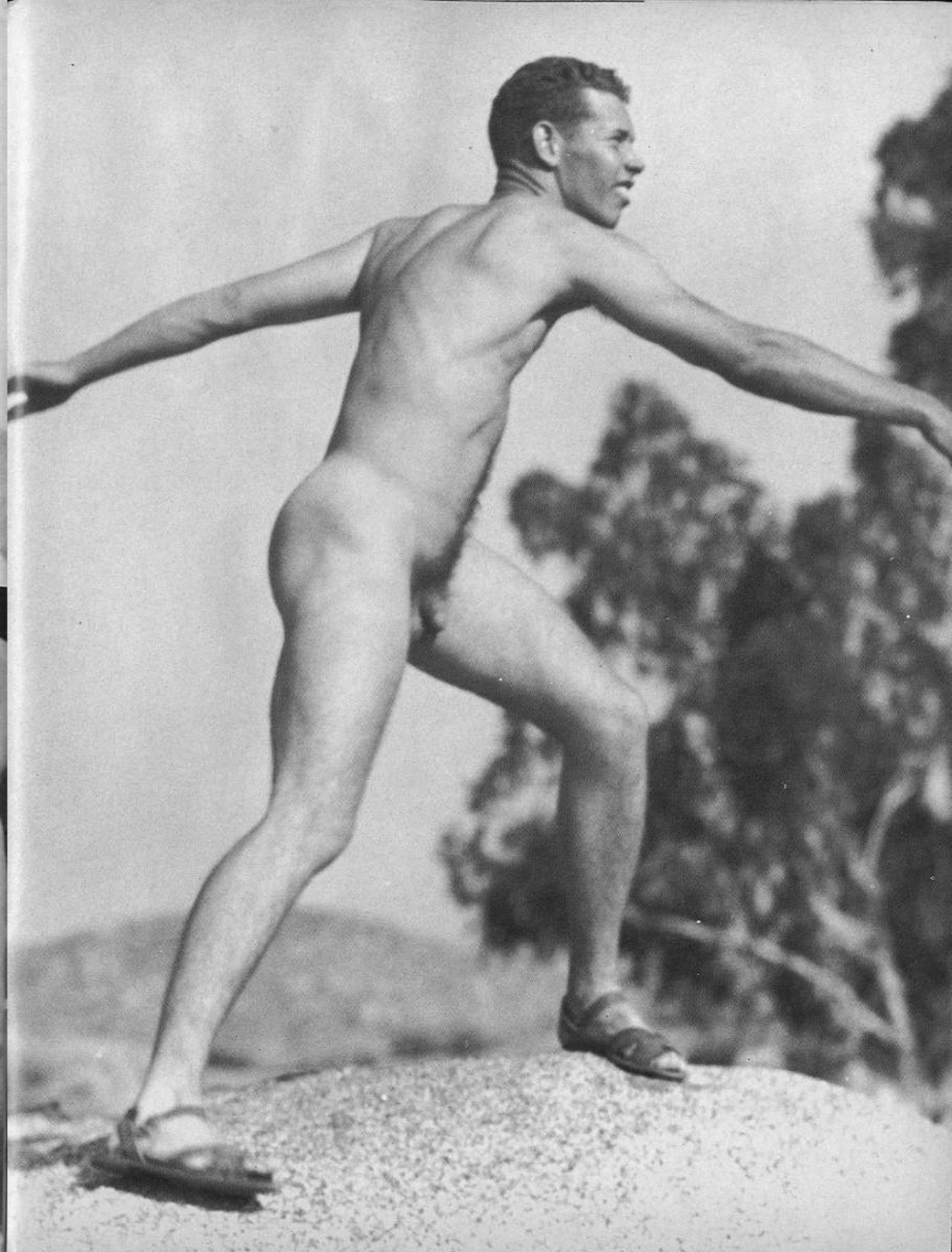
It is interesting to note that in Hindu philosophy, considered to be one of the purest forms of ethics, the highest stage of perfection is the **gnanis,** in which the philosopher does away with clothing. The **gnani** must pass through three different stages, each with its appropriate costume, until he reaches the final stage of nudity. While the British ruled India, however, the **gnanis** had to wear at least a loin cloth, for British law prohibited nudity. Since 1947 and Indian independence, there has been a marked trend back to the customary nakedness.

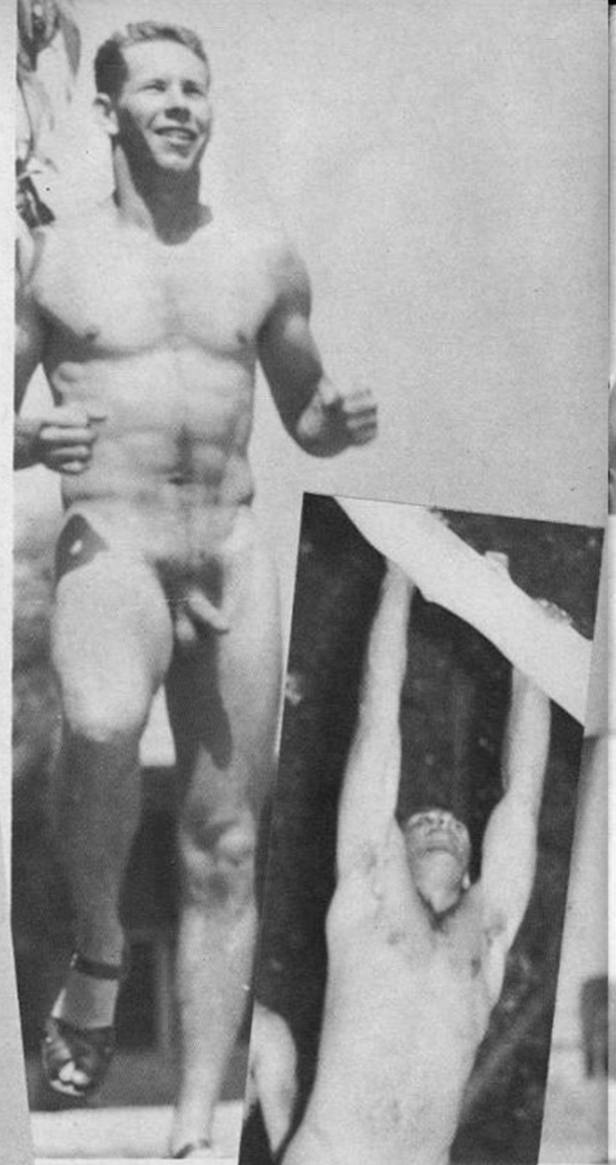


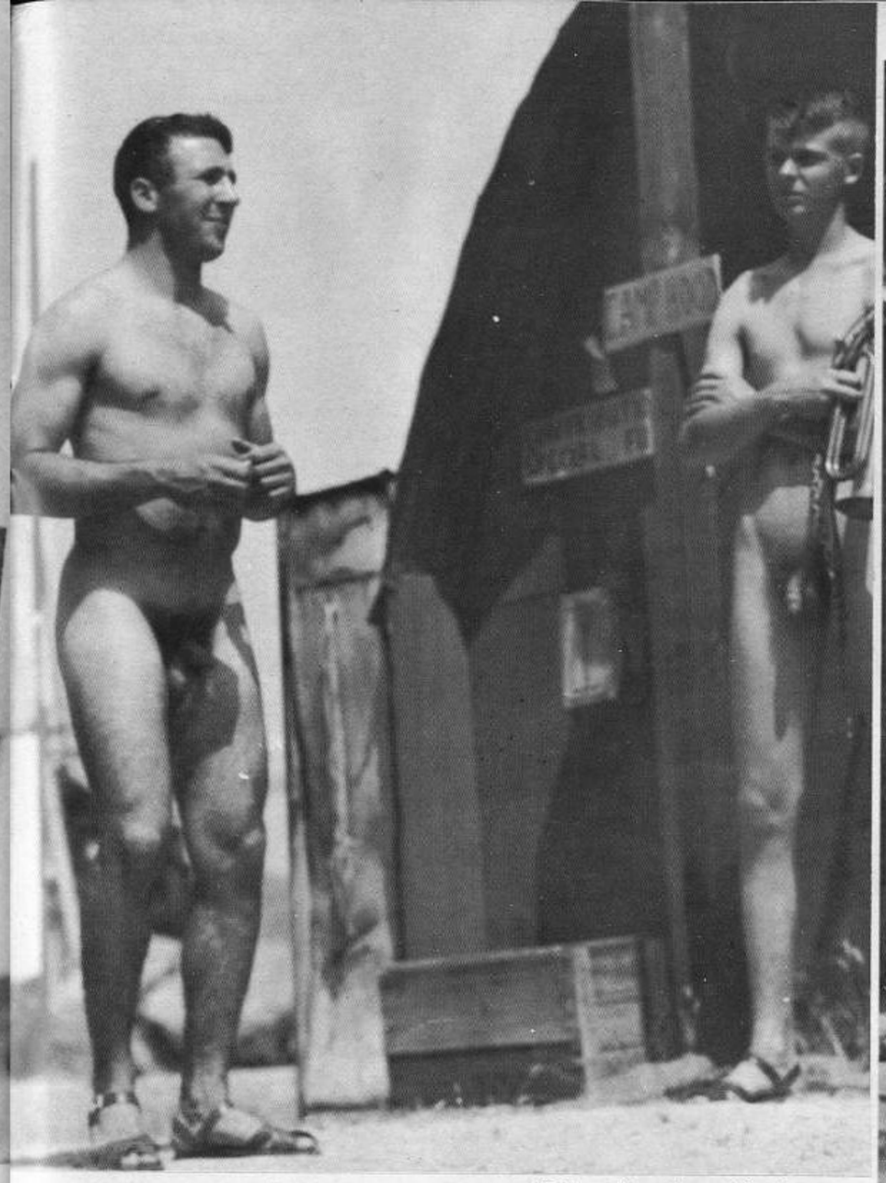












If, then, there is nothing inherently shameful about the naked human body, what is the origin and nature of our modesty in dress? Why are we ashamed to display our own naked bodies or look at the naked bodies of others?

There are a number of possible answers to this question. First of all, the original purpose of clothing was to ornament or protect the body, not to hide it. Animal teeth and bird feathers were used in religious and sexual rites; furs and leaves shielded natives from the sun and the cold.

It slowly developed that the part of the body habitually covered took on a special significance — magical, religious, or psychological — simply because it was hidden. In some cultures the genital area took on this aura of the forbidden. In others it was the breasts, the ankles, the face, or any of a great variety of parts.

This phenomenon is not universally true. Some tribes never adapted clothes to their daily living and to them, the clothed body creates the same shame that the naked body does to us.

Just why Western civilization chose the genital area to hide from view is somewhat of a mystery. The best guess is that it derived from the old Hebraic prohibitions against nudity of any kind. The strictly Orthodox Jewish Code has forbidden intercourse in the nude for 2000 years. Coitus must be in the dark or semi-dark, and the nude female or female genitalia must not be observed even by the husband.

These rules were illustrated in the story of Adam and Eve, who were naked and unashamed in the Garden of Eden until they ate the forbidden fruit and had to cover their nakedness with leaves. It is generally assumed that they covered their genital areas as a sign of their shame.

The close association between prohibitions in sex and nudity eventually caused the sexual organs to gain special importance in a negative sense. As repressive measures against sex grew through the years, the codes against exposure of the genital area became entrenched, and soon the question was one of morals rather than religion.

Fortunately the situation is rapidly changing. Kinsey reported that 92 per cent of married couples regularly enjoy intercourse in the nude. Facts like these are symptomatic of this generation's revolt against foolish and unrealistic sex restrictions. The latest styles of semi-nudity in clothing are further indications of this encouraging trend.

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American attitude towards nudity continues to be puzzling in light of the many changes in modern society. Hopefully, the fresh insights of this generation will bring about the needed moral reform in which widespread nudism can flourish.

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